

REMARKS

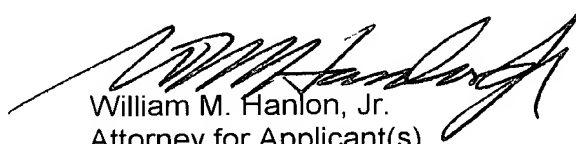
After entry of this amendment, claims 1 - 13 are amended to place the claims in idiomatic English and preferred United States claim format. The claim amendments are not made to address any issues of patentability or art.

A hand-written, corrected copy of the specification is enclosed showing the changes which have been made to the specification as required by Section 608.01(Q) and 714.20(1) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. The Substitute Specification filed herewith has been amended to utilize idiomatic English, correct minor typographical and grammatical errors and to conform the application to current United States patent practice. The Substitute Specification includes no new subject matter; but does include the same changes handwritten in red in the attached, corrected, original specification. Entry of the Substitute Specification is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application. Consideration of this amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS
TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

1. (Amended) [Device (1)] A device for detecting particles [(2)] on a windshield [(3)] of a motor vehicle [(10)], with a radiation source [(4)] which emits optical rays [(5)] onto the windshield [(3)] with a photodetector [(6)], which receives a portion of the rays [(5)] emitted onto the windshield [(3)], and with a control unit [(8)], which manages the radiation source [(4)] and analyzes the rays [(7)] received by the photodetector [(6)] characterized in that the radiation source [(4)] is positioned outside the field of vision of a driver of the vehicle [(10)] and is aligned in such a way that the light rays [(5)] from the radiation source [(4)] strike the windshield in the area of the field of vision, and that the photodetector [(6)] is pointed at the area of the windshield [(3)] which the optical rays [(5)] from the radiation source [(4)] strike.

2. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the radiation source [(4)] is formed as a light-emitting-diode [(LED)].

3. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with claim 1 [or 2], wherein the photodetector [(6)] [possesses] includes several receiving units.

4. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with claim 3, wherein the receiving units are formed as optoelectronic arrays [such as, for example, charge-coupled device (CCD) image converters].

5. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with claim 3 [or 4], wherein means [(12)] are located in the direction of propagation of the beams [(7)] reflected from the particles [(2)] in front of the receiving units for focusing the beams.

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6. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with claim 5, wherein the means [(12)] for focusing the beams are formed as lenses.

7. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 6], wherein the radiation source [(4)] emits optical rays [(5)] with a wavelength of about 350 nm to 800 nm.

8. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 6], wherein the radiation source [(4)] emits optical rays [(5)] with a wavelength in the infrared range.

9. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [and 8], wherein the control unit [(8)] manages the radiation source [(4)] in such a way that the type of particles can be determined from the rays [(7)] received by the photodetector.

10. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 9], wherein the control unit [(8)] analyzes the rays received by the detector [(7)] [by means of suitable algorithms] so that the type of particles [(2)] can be determined.

11. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 10], wherein the device [(1)] is an integral part of an interior light module in the vehicle [(10)].

12. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 10], wherein the device [(1)] is an integral part of a rearview mirror module in the vehicle [(10)].

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13. (Amended) [Device (1)] The device in accordance with [one of the claims] claim 1 [to 12], wherein the device [(1)] is connected over a bidirectional data bus to a superordinate control unit in the vehicle [(10)].

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